

Table 2 General Hook & Line Regulations (Note 1)

This table provides general statewide regulations for the species listed. However, there are many waters in the state that have fishing regulations which differ from those in this table. Please refer to the Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters (p. 12), Sylvania Wilderness Area (p. 13), and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 14-17).

Species	Minimum Size	Daily/ Possession Limit	Seasons	
Largemouth bass Smallmouth bass (Note 2)	14"	5  in any combination but  no more than  2 northern pike (Note 7)	<b>3rd. Sat. in June - Dec. 31:</b> L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18) <b>Sat. before Memorial Day - Dec. 31:</b> All other waters including Great Lakes (except those listed in Note 2)	
Walleye (Note 3)	15" except 13" on L. St. Clair St. Clair R.		<b>May 15 - end of February:</b> On Upper Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing, Gr. Lakes waters and St. Marys R. <b>Last Sat. in April - March 15:</b> On Lower Pen. inland waters not otherwise closed to fishing. <b>Open all year:</b> Lower Pen. Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18)	
Northern pike (Note 7 & 8)	24"		<b>Open all year</b>	
Flathead catfish	15"			
Channel catfish	12"	10	<b>May 15 - end of February:</b> Upper Pen. inland and Gr. Lakes waters St. Marys R. <b>Last Sat. in April - March 15:</b> Lower Pen. inland waters <b>Open all year:</b> Lower Pen. waters of L. Michigan Lower Pen. waters of L. Huron L. Erie <b>1st Sat. in June - Dec. 15:</b> L. St. Clair, St.Clair R., Detroit R. (See p. 18)	
Muskellunge (Note 7 & 8)	42"	1		
Yellow perch (Note 4)	No  size  limit	50		<b>Open all year</b>
Sunfishes (Note 5)		25 in any combination of the listed species		
White bass		25 on Gr. Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Marys R., St. Clair R., and Detroit R. 10 on inland		
Lake whitefish Lake herring (cisco)		12 in any combination		
Lake Sturgeon	Please see Table 3, p. 10 for Lake Sturgeon Regulations			
All others (Note 6)	No size limit	No possession limit	<b>Open all year</b>	

Notes for Table 2

Note 1 - All Coolwater fish

Coolwater fish include all species listed in this table. Regulations for trout and salmon on inland waters are included in a separate publication, Michigan Inland Trout & Salmon Guide.

Note 2 - Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass

On L. Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog, (Charlevoix Co.) the open season is July 1 - Dec. 31, (see p. 14).  
**Catch and immediate release seasons:** On the following waters, bass may be caught and released on the dates listed. All bass caught must be immediately (see common terms p. 18) returned to the water: L. St. Clair, St. Clair R. and Detroit R., from the last Sat. in April - Fri. before the 3rd. Sat. in June; All Lower Pen. waters including Great Lakes: Last Sat. in April - Fri. before Memorial Day; All Upper Pen. waters including Great Lakes: May 15 - Fri. before Memorial Day.

### Note 3 - Walleye

**Little Bay de Noc** (Delta Co.): No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed north of a line drawn from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.

**St. Joseph R.** No more than 1 walleye over 23" may be possessed from the St. Joseph R. below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor.

**L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.:** The daily possession limit for walleye is 6 on these waters.

**Michigan waters of Green Bay:** from the mouth of the Menominee R. northward to the latitudinal line (45 degrees/15 minutes) located approximately 3 miles south of Rochereau Point: from March 2 - Fri. before 1st Sat. in May the daily possession limit is 1 walleye and from the 1st Sat. in May - March 1 the daily possession limit is 5 walleye.

### Note 4 - Yellow perch

**L. Huron** waters of Mackinac and Chippewa Cos. and the **St. Marys R.**, the minimum size limit is 7".

**L. Michigan** south of the 45th parallel (excluding the Grand Traverse Bays) the possession limit is 35 perch.

### Note 5 - Sunfishes

Includes: black and white crappies, bluegill, green and hybrid sunfish, longear, pumpkinseed, redear, rock bass, and warmouth.

### Note 6 - All others

Those species not listed above and not listed in Table 1 (p.6).

### Note 7 - Special Northern Pike & Muskellunge Regulations

#### Lakes with no size limit on northern pike, daily limit of 5 northern pike:

**ALCONA:** Badger L. **ALGER:** Nawakwa, Trout, and 16 Mile Lks. **ALLEGAN:** Pine Creek Flooding  
**BARAGA:** Vermillac (Worm) L. **CHARLEVOIX:** Deer, Fox, Geneserath, Hoffman and Six Mile Lks.  
**CHEBOYGAN:** Black R. upstream of Tower Dam (includes Tower Pond) and tributary streams only, Silver and Wildwood Lks. **CHIPPEWA:** Frenchman L. **CLARE:** L. **Thirteen** **CRAWFORD:** Big Creek Impoundment, River and Pickerel Lks. **DELTA:** Carr, Chicago, and Hamilton Lks. and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **DICKINSON:** Sawyer L. **EMMET:** French Farm and O'Neal L. Floodings **GLADWIN:** L. **Lancer** **GOGEBIC:** African (Big and Little), Chaney, Cisco, Clearwater, East Bay, Fishhawk, Indian, Lindsley, Morley, Poor, Record, and Thousand Island Lks. **GRAND TRAVERSE:** Boardman L., Brown Bridge Pond and L. Dubonnet **HOUGHTON:** Rice L. **IRON:** Bone, Buck, Indian, Runkle and Winslow Lks., Hemlock Falls and Michigamme Reservoirs, Michigamme Falls and Peavy Reservoirs, Lake St. Kathryn, Deer R., Net R., and Net R. Wide Waters. **KENT:** Bass L. **LEELANAU:** Florence L. (S. Manitou Is.), artificial lures only **LUCE:** East and Muskallonge Lks. **MACKINAC:** East L. **MANISTEE:** Bar L. **MARQUETTE:** Cedar L., Engman L., Dead R. Storage Basin, Witch L., Middle Br. Escanaba R., Big West Br. Escanaba R., and Escanaba R. (upstream from first dam at US-2) **MASON:** Hackert L. (Crystal L.) **MECOSTA:** Haymarsh L. **MENOMINEE:** Westman Impoundment **MISSAUKEE:** Missaukee L. **MONTMORENCY:** East and West Town Corner Lks., Black River and tributary streams only **MUSKEGON:** Big Blue L. **OCEANA:** Round (Wykoff) L. and Silver L. **OGEMAW:** L. **Ogemaw** **OSCEOLA:** L. Miramichi, Rose L. and Wells L. **OSCODA:** Pickerel L. **OTSEGO:** Black R. and tributaries **PRESQUE ISLE:** Francis L., Ocqueoc R. and tributary streams upstream of, but not including Ocqueoc Lk., Ocqueoc Watershed Lakes (Ann, Bullhead, Ella, Emma, Ferdelman, Gorman, Horseshoe, Lost, Louise, Lower and Upper Barnhart, May, McIntosh, Moore, Mud and Nettie), Black R. and tributary streams only (not including Tomahawk Flooding) **ROSCOMMON:** L. St. Helen, Backus Cr., Mud L., and Little Mud L. Waterfowl Flooding **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Boot, Crooked, Kennedy, Stanley and Thunder Lks.; **Seney National Wildlife Refuge Pools** - contact Refuge office (906-586-9851).

#### Lakes with 30" minimum size on Northern Pike:

**ALGER:** Duck and Echo Lks. (Grand Island) possession limit of 1 northern pike. **BARRY:** Fish L. **IRON:** Cable and Porter Lks. **KEWEENAW:** Gratiot L. **MARQUETTE:** Fish L. **SCHOOLCRAFT:** Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.

#### Lakes with Northern Pike and Muskellunge possession seasons the last Sat. in April - Nov. 30:

**BARRY:** Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) minimum size on muskellunge is 50".  
**LENAWEE:** L. Hudson **VAN BUREN:** Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13).

Notes for Table 2 continued next page—

Note 8 - Restricted Spearing Lakes

The following lakes are closed to spearing, except that carp may be taken with a spear or bow from May 1 – Aug. 15 and northern pike may be speared on waters as marked(†) from Jan. 1 - end of February. Be sure to check the Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 14-17).

Lakes closed to spearing (except carp may be speared May 1 – Aug. 15):

- ALLEGAN:** Osterhout L.  
**ALPENA:** Fletcher Floodwaters  
**BARRY:** Fish L. and Thornapple L. (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.)  
**CHEBOYGAN:** Cornwall Impoundment  
**CHIPPEWA:** Caribou L.  
**CLARE:** Budd L.  
**CLINTON:** Ovid L.  
**DELTA:** †Dana L.  
**IRON:** Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley, †Brule, †Chicagon, †Chief Edwards, †Paint, †Paint Pond, and †Violet Lks.  
**KENT:** Campau and Murray Lks.  
**KEWEENAW:** Gratiot L.  
**LAPEER:** Nepessing L.
- LENAWEE:** L. Hudson  
**LIVINGSTON:** Whitmore and Woodland Lks.  
**MACKINAC:** Brevort L.  
**MARQUETTE:** Fish L.  
**MONTMORENCY:** Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin Lks.  
**MUSKEGON:** Mona L.  
**OAKLAND:** Heron and Tipsico Lks.  
**OTSEGO:** Big Bear and Otsego Lks.  
**OTTAWA:** L. Macatawa  
**ST. JOSEPH:** Long L. (Fabius Twp. T6S, R12W, sec 7)  
**SCHOOLCRAFT:** Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks.  
**VAN BUREN:** Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13)  
**WASHTENAW:** Whitmore L.

Table 3 Lake Sturgeon  
Hook & Line only (\*Except Black L. Cheboygan Co., special spearing season)

Open Season (Note 1)	Gear, Harvest, and Size Restrictions	
<b>July 16 - Nov. 30</b> Great Lakes and connecting waters (except L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.), all inland waters except Otsego L. & Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	Catch and release only No possession	
<b>July 16 - Sept. 30</b> L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.	Between 42" - 50". All fish less than 42" and greater than 50" must be released immediately.	1 per season
<b>July 16 - March 15</b> Otsego L. (Otsego Co.)	50" minimum	
<b>1st. Sat. in Sept. - Sept. 30</b> All MI-WI boundary waters (see Note 2, p. 12)	60" minimum (See Table 6, p. 12)	
<b>1st Sat. in February - Sun. following the 2nd Sat. in February</b> Black L. (Cheboygan Co.)	<b>Lottery Draw Only - 5 fish quota for the season</b> Tags will be issued by random drawing. Contact DNR Gaylord office 989-732-3541 for details	
*Spearing for lake sturgeon is prohibited, except in Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) under special lottery permit. <b>Note1:</b> A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, contact DNR for locations and to obtain a tag. Fish being released should not be tagged. Information is available online: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr">www.michigan.gov/dnr</a> .		

Table 4 General Netting Regulations

The following gear restrictions apply for the species, seasons and water listed below:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hand Nets may be of any circumference and handle length.</li><li>Dip Nets may not exceed 9 x 9 feet square nor be erected or fished within 100 feet of any dam.</li><li>Seines may only be used for minnows except under a scientific collector's permit issued by the DNR. FO-229 is available from DNR Operations Service Centers (page 24).</li></ul>		
Species	Seasons	Nets and Waters
Bowfin Carp Gar Smelt Suckers	March 1 - May 31	<b>Hand Nets: South of M-72</b> Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., and Detroit R., and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	<b>Hand Nets: North of M-72</b> (including Upper Peninsula) Great Lakes, St. Marys R. and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229)
	April 1 - May 31	<b>Dip Nets:</b> All Lower Peninsula non-trout streams
	May 1 - May 31	<b>Dip Nets:</b> All Upper Peninsula non-trout streams
Burbot	Dec. 15 - end of February	<b>Hoop Nets:</b> Permit required from DNR office. Peshekee R. (Marquette Co.); AuTrain R. (Alger Co.) from AuTrain L. to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Baraga Co.) from M-38 bridge to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Houghton Co.)